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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/328,626	06/09/1999	STEVEN A. BOVE	245-111	7062

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2005 MARKET STREET, SUITE 2200  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103-7013

EXAMINER

FELTEN, DANIEL S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3624

DATE MAILED: 10/30/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/328,626

Applicant(s)

Bone

Examiner

Felten

Art Unit

3624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7/29/03.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-62 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-62 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other:

**DETAILED ACTION**

1  
2 1. Receipt of the amendment filed July 29, 2003 is acknowledged. Claims 1-62 remain  
3 pending in the application and are presented to be examined upon their merits.  
4

***Response to Arguments***

5  
6 2. Applicant's arguments filed July 29, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not  
7 persuasive. Applicant has amended the claims whereby data is input regarding the client's  
8 current asset portfolio "including the taxable status of each asset...". It is given as an example  
9 within Wallman of a taxable status of a given asset (see Wallman, col. 5, ll. 29+). Applicant  
10 asserts that Wallman makes no provision for allowing the user to enter a desired asset  
11 allocation. The examiner disagrees with this assertion for the following reason: Wallman  
12 teaches the ability of the user to manage his/her tax consequences from trading assets held by  
13 the user (see Wallman col. 6, ll. 13+). The examiner maintains that the management of the tax  
14 consequence of a portfolio has an effect on each individual asset as well as the allocation of the  
15 portfolio as a whole. Wallman teaches " a tax registry storing a basis for *each asset/liability*  
16 into the program by the user" and "...the program includes a tax consequence calculator  
17 calculating potential tax consequence for *each possible combination* of sale trade of the selected  
18 assets/liabilities". The examiner interprets this to mean that the tax registry inputs individual

1 tax data for assets/liabilities that may selected individually or in selected group to find out the  
2 tax consequence. The examiners position is maintained and presented below with the  
3 additional claim language.

4  
5  
6  
7 ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

8 3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all  
9 obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

10 (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in  
11 section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art  
12 are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a  
13 person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be  
14 negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

15  
16 4. Claims 1-7, 9-11, 13-21, 23-25 and 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being  
17 unpatentable over Edesess (US 5,884, 287) in view of Alden (US 5,418,888).

18 **Regarding claims 1 and 15:**

19 Edesess discloses a computerized process and product for automating and executing  
20 investment planning for a client comprising:

1 (a) inputting into a computer data regarding the client's desired asset portfolio,  
2 including the taxable status of each asset (see Edesess, col. 4, ll. 27-30; col. 39, ll. 47-50; col.  
3 5, ll. 15-19) , as in

4 (b)...desired allocation (see Edesess, col. 4, ll. 45-55; col. 5, ll. 15-22),

5 (c)... preferred domain (see Edesess, col. 5, ll. 38)

6 (d)...to automatically generate financial transaction recommendations for modifying the  
7 clients current asset portfolio to reach as close as possible to the desired asset allocation and  
8 preferred domain (see Edesess, fig. 6, "*Contributions should be increased and/or expenditures*  
9 *reduced when in this zone.*")

10 (e) displaying the recommendations on a summary report for review by the client or  
11 the client's financial manager (see Edesess, figs. 4-6; col. 6, ll. 33+)

12 Edesess fails to disclose recommendations for selling amounts of selected current assets  
13 and specific recommendations for buying amounts of one or more investment funds.

14 Alden discloses an expert system embodiment which includes an application that  
15 recommends buy or selling of assets, particularly stocks (see Alden, col. 36, ll. 34+). It would  
16 have been obvious for an artisan of ordinary skill at the time of the invention of Edesess to  
17 integrate the aforementioned feature of Alden into the Edesess invention because an artisan at  
18 the time of the invention would have recognized that the notoriously old and well known  
19 method of buying and/or selling stocks/commodities to improve portfolio performance would  
20 provide the Edesess system with an alternative of optimizing the investment plan to reach the

1 target scenario. Thus such a modification would have been an obvious expedient to one of  
2 ordinary skill in the art.  
3

4 **Regarding claims 2 and 16:**

5 Edesess in view of Alden discloses wherein step(d) includes determining tax impacts of  
6 potential sell transactions, the recommendations being selected to minimize the tax impacts (see  
7 Edesess, col. 5, ll. 38+).  
8

9 **Regarding claims 3 and 17:**

10 Edesess in view of Alden discloses wherein the summary report includes tax impacts of  
11 at least some of the recommendations (see Edesess, fig. 4 col. 6, ll. 33+).  
12

13 **Regarding claims 4 and 18:**

14 Edesess in view of Alden discloses, (f) inputting into a computer data regarding the  
15 clients asset portfolio preferences, including current assets that the client wishes to hold or sell,  
16 and constraints on asset selling, wherein, step

17 (d) further includes using the data in step (f) to automatically generate the financial  
18 transaction recommendations (see Alden, col. 36, ll. 34+).  
19

20 **Regarding claims 5 and 19:**

1           Edesess in view of Alden discloses wherein step (d) includes determining transaction  
2 costs of potential sell transactions, the recommendations being selected to minimize the  
3 transaction costs (see Alden, "Total cost", col. 42, 23+).

4  
5   **Regarding claims 6 and 20:**

6           Edesess in view of Alden discloses wherein the summary report includes the transaction  
7 costs of at least some of the recommendations (see Alden, "Total cost", col. 42, 23+).

8  
9   **Regarding claims 7 and 21:**

10           Edesess in view of Alden discloses wherein the client's current asset portfolio includes  
11 repositionable assets, non-repositionable assets and possibly repositionable assets, and step (d)  
12 includes a recommendation to hold the client's possibly repositionable assets if the client's new  
13 asset location with be within a predetermined percentage of the desired asset allocation after  
14 selling all the client's repositionable assets (see Alden, col. 36, ll. 34+).

15  
16   **Regarding claims 9 and 23:**

17           Edesess in view of Alden discloses wherein the client's current asset portfolio includes  
18 repositionable assets, non-repositionable assets and possibly repositionable assets, and step  
19 (d) includes treating the possibly repositionable assets as non-repositionable assets  
20 when making the current asset portfolio modifications (see Alden, col. 36, ll. 34+).

1 **Regarding claims 10 and 24:**

2 Edesess in view of Alden discloses wherein the client's current asset portfolio includes  
3 repositionable assets, non-repositionable assets and possibly repositionable assets, and step  
4 (d) includes a recommendation to sell the client's repositionable asset until the tax  
5 cost of selling equals a predetermined percentable of the client's current asset portfolio (see  
6 Alden, col. 36, ll. 34+).

7  
8  
9 **Regarding claims 11 and 25:**

10 Edesess in view of Alden discloses wherein recommendations include  
11 recommendations to (I) add specific amounts of shares to currently held mutual funds, and (ii)  
12 open one or more new mutual funds and contribute specific amounts of shares to  
13 the new funds (see Alden, col. 36, ll. 34+).

14  
15  
16 **Regarding claims 13 and 27:**

17 Edesess in view of Alden discloses wherein step (d) includes developing target  
18 portfolio amounts and adjusted target portfolio amounts for each asset category in the desired  
19 asset allocations (see Edesess, fig. 4, col. 6, ll. 33+).



1 **Regarding claims 14 and 28:**

2 Edesess in view of Alden discloses (f) inputting information regarding the client which  
3 is necessary to determine the client's desired asset allocation and the client's preferred domain;  
4 and

5 (g) automatically determining the client's desired asset allocation and the client's  
6 preferred domain and using the results as the data inputs in steps (b) and (c ) (see Edesess, col.  
7 5, ll. 15+).

8  
9 **Regarding claims 29:**

10 Edesess in view of Alden discloses wherein step (e) further comprises communication  
11 the specific recommendations for selling amounts of selected current assets and specific  
12 recommendations for buying amounts of one or more investment funds to a trade execution  
13 computer which automatically performs the necessary transactions to execute the buy/sell  
14 recommendations (see Alden, col. 36, ll. 34+).

15  
16 5. Claims 30-36, 38-40, 42-50, 51-54 and 56-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as  
17 being unpatentable over Edesess (US 5,884,287) as modified by Alden (US 5,418,888) as  
18 applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Robinson et al (hereinafter referred to as  
19 "Robinson", US 5388,248). The teachings of Edesess as modified by Alden have been  
20 discussed above.

1

2 **Regarding claims 30 and 44:**

3 Edesses as modified by Alden fails to disclose computer program product including at  
4 least one computer readable medium. Computer readable medium (i.e., IC cards, floppy disks,  
5 or compact discs, software packages, etc..) are commonly used in the art to download various  
6 computer programs onto computer hard drives for either individual "stand alone" usage, or in  
7 conjunction with a network such as the Internet (i.e., American On-line software). Robinson  
8 teaches a computer readable medium that has a user programmable memory storage (see  
9 Robinson col. 4, ll. 40+). In view of Robinson flash memory card, it would have been  
10 obvious for an artisan of ordinary skill at the time of the invention of Edessess as modified by  
11 Alden to employ the computer readable medium of Robinson to store the program and to be  
12 later downloaded onto a computer system. The computer medium would have provided a  
13 convenient means to physically transport software from computer to computer. Thus to provide  
14 a computer medium with the aforementioned program would have been an obvious expedient  
15 well within the ordinary skill in the art.

16

17 **Regarding claims 31 and 45:**

18 (see explanation for claims 2 and 16)

19

20 **Regarding claims 32 and 46:**

1 see explanation for claims 3 and 17)

2

3 **Regarding claims 33 and 47:**

4 see explanation for claims 4 and 18)

5 **Regarding claims 34 and 48:**

6 see explanation for claims 5 and 19)

7

8

9 **Regarding claims 35 and 49:**

10 see explanation for claims 6 and 20)

11

12 **Regarding claims 36 and 50:**

13 see explanation for claims 7 and 21)

14

15 **Regarding claims 38 and 52:**

16 see explanation for claims 9 and 23)

17

18 **Regarding claims 39 and 53:**

19 see explanation for claims 10 and 24)

20

1 **Regarding claims 40 and 54:**

2 (see explanation for claims 11 and 25)

3  
4 **Regarding claims 42 and 56:**

5 (see explanation for claims 13 and 27)

6  
7 **Regarding claims 43 and 57:**

8 (see explanation for claims 14 and 28)

9  
10 **Regarding claims 58:**

11 (see explanation for claims 29)

12  
13 **Regarding claims 59-62:**

14 (see Alden, col. 36, ll. 34+)

15

16

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20

*Conclusion*

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ***Daniel S. Felten*** whose telephone number is (703) 305-0724. The examiner can normally be reached between the hours of 7:00AM to 5:30PM Monday-Thursday. Any inquiry of a general nature relating to the status of this application or its proceedings should be directed to the Customer Service Office (703) 306-5631, or the examiner's supervisor ***Vincent Millin*** whose telephone number is (703) 308-1065.

8. Response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

1 for formal communications intended for entry, or (703) 305-0040, for informal or draft  
2 communications, please label "Proposed" or "Draft".

3 Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35  
4 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be  
5 addressed to *[daniel.felten@uspto.gov]*.  
6  
7  
8

9 All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO  
10 employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that  
11 sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly  
12 signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly  
13 set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and  
14 Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1 195 OG 89.  
15  
16  
17

18 DSF  
19 October 28, 2003



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